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THE HAGUE COURT'S BLUNDER.

It can not be argued that the cause of international arbitration has made any material advance in popularity among the powers through the last decision of The Hague tribunal, says the Commercial. Its verdict appears now to have been based on almost inexplicable misconception of Venezuela's position in the matter.

Mr. Bowen proposes that all claims against Venezuela be paid out of the customs receipts of the two ports of La Guayra and Puerto Cabello, the percentage to be 30 per cent each month of the receipts. In case of failure on the part of Venezuela to pay the said 30 per cent, the crediting nations will be authorized to put, with the consent and without any opposition on the part of Venezuela, Belgian customs officials in charge of the said two custom houses and to administer them until the entire foreign debt is paid.

Exactly how The Hague court could interpret "all claims" as applying only to the claims of the three blockading "powers" is inconceivable. Equally so is that tribunal's notion that Venezuela, having protested against the hold-up of the three collector powers, should a little later on take the position that the blockaders thus secured priority for their claims.

Mr. Bowen's protest is not surprising in the circumstances. The business of arbitrating international disputes is not likely to be particularly brisk with The Hague tribunal, if this Venezuela award is to be taken as a fair sample of its work.

"THE PRESIDENT'S YACHT."

Secretary Moody has done a public service in his exposure of the myth as to the "president's yacht," otherwise the cruiser Mayflower. The yellow journals have been ringing the changes on the charge that the president has been keeping an expensive yacht at the public expense, owing to the fact that on public duty, the president has had occasion to use a state room on the Mayflower. All of the money which has been paid for repairs to the Mayflower has been charged up to the president's account by the sensational journals, says the Post-Intelligencer.

Now, Secretary Moody has given out the exact facts. The president has spent on the cruiser Mayflower exactly forty hours' time; and has traveled on board this vessel a total distance of ninety-seven miles. The president's family and invited guests have had quarters on board the Mayflower for the total time of one week, have traveled a distance of forty miles and have paid all of their own expenses during that period.

It is asserted by one of the scientists that the sun is gradually losing its heat. The temperature in Astoria the past two days does not seem to bear out this statement.

Queer people, the Mormon apostles, who think a resolution in condemnation of contracting plural marriages will "forever silence" the critics of plural cohabitation.

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A CASE FOR RESIGNATION.

The sentence of Senator Burton, of Kansas, to a six months' term in jail and the payment of a fine of \$2,500 is humiliating to the sense of national pride and honor every American must feel, and his resignation ought to be forwarded to the proper authority, whether the governor of Kansas or the presiding officer of the senate. When a high-class jury is compelled by the evidence to return a verdict of guilty, and when the court, in passing on the

motion for a new trial, congratulates the jury on its independence and plainly and positively states its concurrence in the verdict, the end came, and the usefulness of Senator Burton was gone.

There will be pity and sympathy for Senator Burton, and more for those who bear his name, but not even the reversal of the trial court on errors of law, could rehabilitate him in the eyes of the public nor in the public esteem, nor could it restore his usefulness. He still is a senator from the state of Kansas, entitled to all the prerogatives, emoluments and privileges of his high position. But should he ever attempt to resume the functions of a senator it would not only be a public exhibition of his tarnishment, but it would be a tarnishment of the dignity of the senate of the United States.

Pending the determination of his appeal he is at liberty, but neither his liberty nor a reversal can ever overcome the undisputed testimony on which he was convicted, nor the concurrence of the trial judge with the verdict. There is not one American who would not have rejoiced if the case on the part of the United States had broken down and the innocence of Senator Burton been made plain. But it was the case on the part of the defense that broke down, and his resignation ought to be promptly tendered.

AN ANACONDA MARTYR.

The Inter Mountain has been favored with a circular letter under an Anaconda date, signed "Socialistic Candidate for Alderman." From it we quote:

"Election day is drawing nigh. It is of more than ordinary importance. As a candidate for alderman I solicit your support, not so much for myself as the cause I have the honor to represent. Socialism for which I stand is consecrated to a holy cause. Human sacrifice lies behind it. It has been prosecuted and maligned. The Blue Card on the Hill, and beer at the old party caucuses are relied upon by those who would shape the political program of our city for their benefit, to accomplish its defeat. Amid all this persecution, conscious of the rectitude of its intentions, it appeals to you for your assistance. Its object is the emancipation of the world's workers. Its cause is your cause. Its victory is your victory. Its defeat is your defeat. The old parties are making a desperate effort to regain the graft, of which they were dispossessed when the people placed Frinke in the mayor's chair. They offer no argument except the brutal blue card, no inducement except free beer."

The theme, the logic and the argument of this appeal seem to warrant the belief that it is a production of the gentlemanly bartender who is the socialistic candidate for alderman in one of the wards of Anaconda rather than an output of the socialist literary bureau maintained in connection with the public schools of that city, continues the Inter Mountain. Who could so well appreciate the dire human sacrifice involved in a compulsory limited choice between a blue card and free beer? With a blue card it is utterly impossible to fight the industrial interests of the town at the expense of the owners by getting on their payrolls. With free beer at the caucuses it is mighty plain there must be at least a temporary crimp in the business of selling it to the oppressed voters at a bit a schmit. And besides this is the confident socialist belief that the old parties want to regain from the socialist party the official graft which the last named organization has acquired in part.

Surely it is not extravagant for a polite and accommodating bartender to feel that he represents consecration to a holy cause under such conditions. And if he should be defeated he would be a genuine martyr.

The payment for the transportation of mails is at practically the same rate as it was a score of years ago, while the cost of transporting other classes of matter has been reduced one third to one half.

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The second city in Missouri has gone republican and the ex-Confederate in the cob-pipe districts may yet admit the war is over.

Chicago's vote to buy its cranky old streetcar service is explained by the fact that the city has no money to pay for it.

Colombia has little more than three hundred miles of railway and not a mile has been built in ten years.

The latest terrible fusillade by Tammany seems to have been mostly blank cartridges.

In Chicago it is "sporadic graft"; in St. Louis plain graft.

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